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REPORT ON THE DIRECTIVES OF THE XIX PARTY CONGRESS RELATING TO THE FIFTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE U.S.S.R. IN 1951-1955

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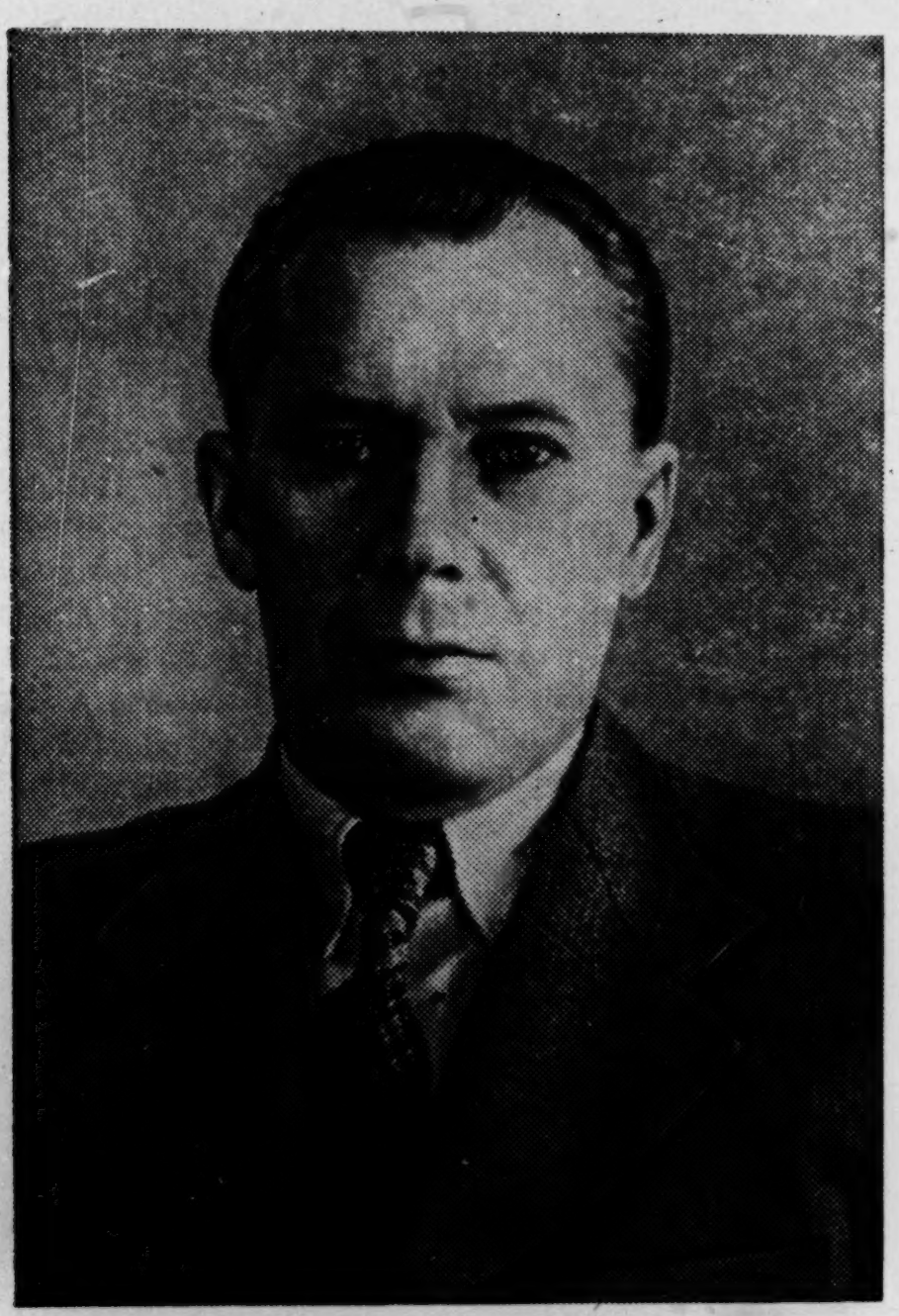

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Comrades, submitted here for your consideration are the directives relating to the Fifth Five-Year Plan for the Development of the U.S.S.R. in the years 1951-55. The new five-year plan will continue the line of the previous five-year plans aimed at the peaceful development of Soviet economy, at the systematic growth of the socialist economy and of the well-being of the people; its fulfilment will mark an important stage in our country's gradual transition from socialism to communism.

Our country achieved great successes in economic and cultural development as a result of the fulfilment of the Fourth Five-Year Plan. The main tasks of the Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. in the years 1946-50 were to rehabilitate the regions of the country that had suffered from the war, to restore the prewar level in industry and agriculture and then considerably to surpass this level. As we know from the published report on the fulfilment of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, the latter was successfully fulfilled, and its most important assignments were far exceeded.

The fulfilment of the Fourth Five-Year Plan left the prewar level of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. far behind. The volume of industrial output provided

for in the five-year plan was reached ahead of schedule, in a period of 4 years and 3 months, so that the gross output of industry in 1950 was 73 per cent above that of prewar. Thanks to the high rate of industrial development, the further technical equipping of the national economy was effected on a considerable scale, and all its branches were replenished with the latest Soviet-made machinery.

In agriculture, the prewar level was notably exceeded in per-hectare yield and total crop, and also in output of meat and dairy products.

The growth of the basic branches of the national economy was accompanied by the development of all types of transport and by a considerable increase in traffic over the prewar level.

The advance of the national economy led to a rise in the well-being of the people and the prewar level of consumption was far surpassed. In 1950 the national income of the U.S.S.R. showed an increase of 64 per cent over the 1940 figure. There was a large expansion of the output of consumer goods; the currency reform was carried out; the rationing of foodstuffs and industrial goods was completely abolished; the home trade expanded considerably; there were repeated reductions of retail prices; and the Soviet ruble was placed on a still firmer basis. The total incomes of workers and employees and of the peasants in 1950 showed an increase of 62 per cent over the 1940 total.

The Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. in 1946-50 was fulfilled by utilizing our country's own

resources, without any assistance from abroad, and without foreign credits. Decisive in the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the plan was the self-sacrificing work of the Soviet people, who were guided by the Communist Party and led by the great Stalin. (Applause.) The successful fulfilment of the Fourth Five-Year Plan resulted in the further consolidation of the socialist system and was yet another great victory for the U.S.S.R., ensuring the further growth of the might of the socialist state.

The successful fulfilment of the Fourth Five-Year Plan enables us to adopt a Fifth Five-Year Plan, one that will result in the further development of all branches of the national economy, the increased well-being of the people, the promotion of public health and the raising of the cultural level of the people.

The most important tasks indicated in the directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan will be seen from the following facts and figures.

I. THE ASSIGNMENTS OF THE FIFTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR INDUSTRY

The directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan provide for an increase of approximately 70 per cent in industrial output in 1955 above the 1950 level. This means that, by the end of the Fifth Five-Year Plan period, gross industrial output will be three times the prewar level. The annual rate of increase of gross industrial output during the five-year period is to average approximately 12 per cent, this to include a 13 per cent annual increase in the output of means of production and an 11 per cent annual increase in the output of consumer goods. During the period covered by the past five-year plan, the rate of increase of gross industrial output was higher. The somewhat smaller rate of increase of industrial output during the period of the Fifth Five-Year Plan compared with that of the previous five-year plan is to be explained, on the one hand, by the fact that we have finished rehabilitating industry, the rapid increase in output having been due to the commissioning of rehabilitated plants, and, on the other hand, that we must secure a further considerable improvement in quality and expand the assortment of output during the new five-year plan period. At the same time it should be borne in mind

that every increase of one per cent in gross industrial output during the period of the new five-year plan will be almost double the volume of a corresponding increase during the operation of the previous five-year plan.

Metallurgy is the basis for industrial growth and expansion of the entire national economy. The directives for the five-year plan provide for an increase in 1955, as compared with 1950, of approximately 76 per cent in pig iron output, 62 per cent in steel output and 64 per cent in the output of rolled metals. The increase in the output of rolled metals envisaged for the five-year period will exceed the total output of such metals in 1940. With a view to more fully satisfying the requirements of the building and machine-building industries there is to be an increase in the output of such short-supply types of rolled metals as thick-sheet steel, small-bar steel, rolled wire and stainless sheet steel; there is also to be an increase in the production of economical types and profiles of rolled metal, while the output and the quality of special steels and alloys are to be raised.

The achievement of this increase in the output of ferrous metals depends to a great extent on the fuller use of the existing capacities of our metallurgical plants. With this in view, it is proposed further to accelerate metallurgical processes, institute automatic controls over these processes and mechanize labour-consuming jobs at metallurgical plants.

A large program is to be carried out for construction of new iron-and-steel plants and expansion of existing ones. During the Fifth Five-Year Plan

period, as against the period of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, the following increases are to take place in the employment of new production capacities: for pig iron production—approximately 32 per cent; steel—42 per cent; rolled metals—not less than 100 per cent; coke—80 per cent, and iron-ore production 200 per cent. In addition to the further development of the iron-and-steel industries in the South, the Urals, Siberia, and the Central and Northwestern regions, the development of the metallurgical industry in the Transcaucasus must be assured. There must also be iron-ore projecting and prospecting in the Karelo-Finnish Republic.

We have to achieve a considerable expansion in the output of nonferrous metals. During the five-year period the output of refined copper is to be enlarged by approximately 90 per cent, the output of lead—170 per cent, of aluminium—not less than 160 per cent, of zinc—150 per cent, of nickel—53 per cent, and of tin—80 per cent. The increase in the output of nonferrous metals will be accompanied by the further perfection of technological processes and the introduction of new ones, so as to ensure an increase in the output of superior grades of metals. The assignments set for the production of nonferrous metals will require the development of the raw materials base of the nonferrous metal industry, the utmost mechanization of mining and labour-consuming jobs, and a considerable improvement in the use of ores by the metallurgical plants.

A most important condition for achieving the proposed rate of increase in output and technical prog-

ress in all branches of the national economy is the further electrification of the country. The output of electricity in 1955 is to increase approximately 80 per cent over 1950. This will render it possible to raise the level of electrification of industry, the automatization of industrial processes being extensively developed and new methods of electric heating and electrolysis further introduced, to expand the use of electricity in agriculture considerably, to extend the electrification of the railways and to increase the supply of electricity for the domestic needs of the population.

In order to secure the contemplated increase in the output of electricity, and also to increase the reserve of electricity capacities in the country's power system, provision is made for a high rate of increase of electric power station capacities. During the five-year period the total capacities of electric power stations are to be approximately doubled, and of hydroelectric power stations trebled. The increase in the capacities of heat-and-power stations is to be achieved primarily by expanding existing stations.

Government decisions provide for the extensive construction, during the five-year plan period, of hydroelectric power stations and of fuel-power stations operating on local fuel.

Of the hydroelectric power stations now under construction, mention should be first made of the Kuibyshev and the Stalingrad power stations on the Volga and also of the Kakhovka station on the Dnieper. The Kuibyshev hydroelectric station, with a capacity of 2,100,000 kilowatts, is to begin functioning in 1955; this will considerably increase the elec-

tricity supplies of the central regions and of the Volga region. The plan provides for the construction of a 400,000-volt transmission line from the Kuibyshev electric power station to Moscow. Never has there been anything like this in the history of power-scheme construction. During the Fifth Five-Year Plan period, in addition to the Kuibyshev hydroelectric power station, such big hydroelectric stations as the Kama, Gorky, Mingechaur, Ust-Kamenogorsk and others are to be built, their total capacity, to become effective during the present five-year plan period, amounting to nearly 2,000,000 kilowatts. In addition, other hydropower stations on a district and local scale are to be built. The construction of the Stalingrad, Kakhovka and Novosibirsk hydropower stations is in full swing; work will also begin on such new big hydropower stations as the Cheboksary station on the Volga, the Votkinsk station on the Kama, the Bukhtarma station on the Irtysh and a number of others. Work is to begin on the all-round utilization of the power resources of the river Angara, the aim being to utilize cheap electricity and local raw-material resources for the development of the aluminium, chemical, ore-mining and other industries.

In order to effect a considerable improvement in electricity supplies for the South, the Urals and the Kuzbas, provision is made for a large increase in the capacities of district and factory fuel-power stations in these areas. In addition to the construction of big electric power stations, small and medium-size stations are to be built so as to provide towns and country districts with more electricity; to ensure

the extensive installation of central heating in towns and plants, the building of heat-and-power stations must be continued.

High-pressure boilers and turbines will, as a rule, be installed at the big fuel-power stations. Automatic production processes will be introduced on an extensive scale at power stations.

The directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan provide for a considerable development of the oil industry. Oil output during the five years is to increase by approximately 85 per cent. To ensure that this increase is achieved, it will be necessary to expand boring operations, to introduce new methods of well-boring on a wide scale, to make extensive use of methods of maintaining oil strata pressure, and to complete in the main the automatization of oil production processes. To fulfil this big oil production program the development of the oil-processing industry must be speeded up and the industry brought as close as possible to the oil-consuming areas. During the five-year period the capacities of oil-processing plants are to increase as follows: initial oil-processing plants approximately 100 per cent, and cracking plants 170 per cent. The new methods of complex oil processing, which ensure a considerable increase in the extraction of light oil products, will have to be mastered and employed. There is to be a big increase in the employment of pipe lines for the transport of oil and oil products. Huge plants are to begin functioning in the eastern parts of the country for the development of synthetic liquid-fuel production.

The Fifth Five-Year Plan provides for a further and extensive development of the gas industry. The output of natural and casing-head gas and also the production of coal- and shale-gas are to increase during the five years by approximately 80 per cent. There is to be an expansion of the use of gas for domestic purposes and as motor fuel, and for the extraction of chemical products.

Thanks to the great and comprehensive assistance rendered by the Party and the Sovict Government to the coal industry, it has grown considerably during the postwar years and, as is well known, fully satisfies the requirements of the national economy. During the new five-year period an increase of approximately 43 per cent in coal output is provided for. A most important task facing the coal industry is to ensure a more rapid increase in the output of coking coals and also a considerable increase in coal concentration. The output of coking coals is to increase by not less than 50 per cent, while coal concentration is to increase approximately 170 per cent. It is planned to bring into operation approximately 30 per cent more coal-mining capacities than during the Fourth Five-Year Plan. To ensure that the proposed increase in coal output takes place, that labour productivity increases and that work is made easier in the mines, provision is made for the further improvement of methods of exploiting coal deposits, for the further mechanization of the most labour-consuming processes, namely, coal loading in the workings, coal and rock loading during the preparatory processes, and for the large-scale introduction of the latest ma-

chines and mechanisms, thereby extending the mechanization of coal production.

There is to be a further development of the peat and shale industries. During the five-year period, peat output is to increase 27 per cent and shale output 130 per cent, particularly in the Estonian S.S.R.

An important part in ensuring the high rate of development of the national economy and the further technical re-equipment of industry, transport and agriculture is to be played by the machine-building industry. Accordingly, the Fifth Five-Year Plan provides for its further rapid development. During the five-year period the output of the machine-building and metalworking industries is to be approximately doubled. A particularly important task facing the machine-building industry is to ensure that our electric power stations, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgical plants, oil-processing plants, synthetic liquid-fuel and chemical plants are fully supplied with equipment. The output of highly important types of equipment is to show the following increases over that of the fourth five-year period: steam and hydraulic turbines—approximately 330 per cent; rolling equipment—180 per cent; oil machinery—420 per cent.

A considerable increase is also envisaged in the production of chemical equipment, hoisting and hauling equipment and particularly cranes for the metallurgical industries and overhead electric cranes of great hoisting capacity; equipment units for the production of building materials; automatic equipment for the light and food industries, and particularly weaving-looms; new types of agricultural machinery and of

equipment for the lumber, cellulose-and-paper and woodworking industries.

The output of main-line locomotives, diesel-locomotives, electric locomotives, and coaches and wagons is fixed in accordance with the requirements of the railways.

There is to be an increase in the output of tractors and automobiles, particularly of diesel high-tonnage, and also gas-driven, automobiles.

Provision is made for a considerable rise in shipbuilding, to serve the needs of the seagoing merchant fleet, the passenger river fleet and also the fishing fleet.

There will be a considerable increase in the development of machine-tool and also of precision machine manufacture; how far the national economy is supplied with technically-advanced equipment depends first and foremost on the level of development of these industries.

During the years covered by the Fifth Five-Year Plan industry will be supplied with a greater number of highly productive metalworking lathes and forging and stamping machines than during the previous five-year plan period; in particular, the output of large and special-purpose lathes is to increase approximately 260 per cent and of precision lathes 300 per cent. This will make it possible to increase considerably the proportion of progressive types of lathes, to achieve a further increase in the technical level of the machine-building industry and to guarantee the output of technically superior machines and equipment in quantities sufficient to meet the

requirements of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. and of our friends, the democratic countries.

In modern large-scale machine production, ever-increasing importance attaches to the instrument-making industry. The production of instruments is a necessary and important addition to the production of complex machines, which cannot be controlled, as indeed modern technological processes as a whole cannot be controlled, without systems of instruments. The increase in the output of instruments also reflects the growing automatization of production—one of the most important channels of technical progress. The directives provide for approximately a 170 per cent increase, during the five-year period, in the output of regulation and control, and automatization and telemechanization, instruments.

The substantial development of all branches of the machine-building industry will render it possible, during the period covered by the Fifth Five-Year Plan, to conclude, in the main, the mechanization of arduous and labour-consuming jobs in industry as a whole, including the building industry; this will be an outstanding achievement in the further technical equipment of the national economy, in raising labour productivity and in lightening the labour of the workers.

In the chemical industry the highest rates of development are to be achieved in the production of soda, synthetic rubber and mineral fertilizers. By comparison with 1950, the output of calcined soda will show an increase of approximately 84 per cent; of caustic soda—79 per cent; of synthetic rub-

ber—82 per cent and of mineral fertilizers—88 per cent. It is necessary to achieve a considerable increase in capacities engaged in the production of ammonia, sulphuric acid, synthetic rubber, synthetic spirit, soda, mineral fertilizers, agricultural pesticides, and also in the production of granulated fertilizers, that will ensure a big rise in crop yields. An increase is also necessary in the production of plastic, dyes, and the raw materials for artificial silk; there must be an expansion of the assortment of chemical products, and an increase in the manufacture of synthetic substitutes for nonferrous metals.

The timber industry still lags behind the growing requirements of the national economy. The task is to put an end to this lag. During the five-year period timber output is to increase approximately 56 per cent and the output of sawmill products—50 per cent. At the same time there must be a large-scale transfer of the lumber industry to thick-forest areas, particularly in the North, the Urals, West Siberia and the Karelo-Finnish S.S.R., and a reduction of tree-felling in thin-forest areas. The seasonal character of lumbering must be cut down; the lumbering establishments must be reconstructed and new ones established, machine-equipped and provided with regular working personnel. In addition, the all-round mechanization of lumbering must be further developed; the organization of production and the use of mechanisms at the lumbering establishments must be improved, and the productivity of labour increased. To enhance the output of sawn timber, the capacities of sawmills in the areas where the lumber industry

is being developed are to be increased approximately 8-fold as compared with the Fourth Five-Year Plan period.

The paper, cellulose, furniture, plywood, wood-chemistry and hydrolysis industries are to be developed to the utmost.

Big tasks face the building-materials industry. The fulfilment of the program of capital construction envisaged will require at least a 2-fold increase, during the five-year period, in the output of basic building materials, an improvement in their quality and an expansion of their assortment. The output of cement is to be increased approximately 120 per cent; mural materials—130 per cent; slate—160 per cent; tiles—200 per cent, and there is to be a 70 per cent increase in the output of roofing felt. In addition there is to be a considerable increase in the output of new high-quality and progressive decorative and facing building materials, prefabricated parts and units made of ceramics, gypsum, concrete and ferro-concrete, all this being necessary for the further industrialization of building operations and for the reduction of building costs.

The development of the heavy industry and of agriculture during the period covered by the Fifth Five-Year Plan is to provide the basis for the rapid increase in the output of mass consumer goods. Our resources of agricultural raw materials will render it possible to increase, during the five-year period, by not less than 70 per cent the output of the light and food industries. The year 1955 will show increases over the year 1950 as follows: cotton fabrics—approx-

imately 61 per cent; wool fabrics—54 per cent; leather footwear—55 per cent; meat—92 per cent; fish (total catch)—58 per cent; fine sugar—78 per cent; butter—72 per cent; vegetable oil—77 per cent; and canned goods—110 per cent.

A large number of plants will be built for the light and food industries. These will include: cotton-textile mills, cotton-ginning plants, synthetic fibre, silk, clothing, knitted wear, leather and footwear, sugar, vegetable oil and vegetable drying plants, and also breweries and wineries, confectionery, canned-food, meat, fish, butter, and cheese factories.

A considerable increase is also necessary in the production of consumer goods, domestic wares, and local building materials at locally-run and producers' cooperative enterprises. The output of the locally-run and producers' cooperative enterprises is to increase during the five-year period by approximately 60 per cent. For the fulfilment of this program, the local Soviets must give better direction to the locally-run industries and to the producers' cooperative enterprises, and so ensure fuller use of local raw materials and of the waste products of the big state plants, expansion of the assortment of consumer goods in wide demand, improved quality of goods produced, reduced production costs, and an improvement in the work of the locally-run and of the producers' cooperative establishments that provide miscellaneous services for the population.

The interests of the national economy require that all industries further expand the assortment of goods and considerably improve their quality. The fact that

some plants exceed their plans for increased output at the expense of the quality and assortment required is absolutely impermissible. A task of first-rate importance facing our industries is to improve the quality of their products. Improved quality will ensure a more economical use of material resources, and a cutting down of the losses entailed by the production of goods that do not conform to standard. It is of particular importance to improve the quality and expand the assortment of consumer goods. The Soviet purchaser is legitimately demanding ever higher quality and an ever wider assortment of goods. It is the duty of our industries fully to satisfy these growing requirements of the people and not to permit the manufacture of goods that are not in demand.

To ensure high quality of output, state standards that meet the needs of the day must be introduced on a wider scale, more effective use must be made of the bonus system, and supplies of materials and equipment to factories must be better employed, so as to ensure the fulfilment of plans for specific items and their assortment.

A most important condition for fulfilling the assignments of the five-year plan in industrial production is that the fullest use be made of production capacities by introducing up-to-date output quotas and by eliminating as speedily as possible all obstacles to the full use of equipment at the plants. It should be pointed out that in the Fourth Five-Year Plan the assignments for the use of production capacities were, in a number of industries, set below the

proper level, and were considerably exceeded during fulfilment of the plan. This primarily refers to the iron-and-steel and the chemical industries. To this day there are plants in some industries, whose capacities are under-utilized; Ministries which fail to bring to light capacity reserves available at these plants thereby hold up the expansion of the output of a number of highly important types of goods.

Facts showing that Ministries allow production capacities to be under-utilized and fix reduced equipment-utilization quotas come to light not only in functioning factories and plants, but also in technical plans for plants under construction. There have been quite a few cases where, while plants are still being built, their capacities, as indicated in the technical plans, have been shown to require upward revision without additional expenditure.

The responsibility for the under-utilization of production capacities lies in no small measure with the planning bodies. The State Planning Committee of the U.S.S.R. must improve its work in disclosing capacity reserves and in seeing to it that they are used and supplied with government orders, and must conduct a more resolute struggle against all departmental tendencies to reduce the levels of production plans.

Our country has a powerful production apparatus, set up during the years covered by the Stalin Five-Year Plans; it is an apparatus equipped with the most up-to-date machinery, embracing skilled workers, technicians and engineers in large numbers, possessed of a wealth of working experience. This creates

great possibilities for bringing about a systematic increase in output through the better utilization of existing production capacities. Under the new five-year plan, substantial quantities of the products of industry will come from this source. Thus, in 1955, nearly 30 per cent of the total increase achieved in the output of pig iron during the five years is to come from improved utilization of functioning blast furnaces; nearly 25 per cent of the total increase in coal output is to come from the improved utilization of our coal mines; nearly 30 per cent of the total increase in the output of cement is to come from the fuller utilization of our cement works. It is no less important to achieve improved utilization of capacities in other industries too.

In addition to improved utilization of already functioning production capacities, the new five-year plan outlines a big program of capital construction in industry.

In accordance with the plan for the increase of industrial output, the Fifth Five-Year Plan provides for approximately a twofold increase, by comparison with the Fourth Five-Year Plan, of government capital investments in industry. A particularly large increase in capital investments is envisaged for the development of the metallurgical and oil industries, of electric power stations, and also of light-industry plants. The plan for capital construction is to ensure not only the launching of new plants and multiple units on a considerable scale, but also an increase in the capacities of existing plants by the reconstruc-

tion of multiple units, the installation of new equipment, the mechanization of production and the improvement of technological processes. In the new five-year plan, the increase of production capacities through the expansion of existing plants provides a most important reserve for increasing output with a minimum of expenditure. Provision is also to be made in the plan for capital construction aimed at establishing reserves—the building of metallurgical plants, electric power stations, oil-processing plants, coal mines, and chemical plants, the full-capacity construction of which shall take place in the following years.

The latest five-year plan is to ensure an improvement in the geographical distribution of new industrial plants, thereby bringing industry still closer to sources of raw materials and fuel. This will render it possible to do away with irrational and unduly long hauls on the railways.

With a view to satisfying the growing requirements of the national economy in raw material and fuel supplies, the Fifth Five-Year Plan provides for the further development of the prospecting of natural resources, the discovery of mineral deposits and primarily nonferrous and rare metals, coking coals, aluminium minerals, oil, rich-content iron ores and other types of raw material.

A most important condition for the successful fulfilment of the building program in industry and other branches of the national economy is the further development of the building industry, the consolidation and expansion of existing building

organizations, and also the establishment of new ones in areas where large-scale construction is under way.

The building industry at the present time is in a position to handle incomparably bigger and more complicated problems than in past years. The years following the war have seen the establishment and a considerable expansion of such huge building organizations as the Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Works, which is engaged mainly in building ferrous and nonferrous metallurgical plants, the Ministry of Construction of Machine-Building Works, and also big organizations engaged in the construction of electric power stations, oil-industry plants, coal mines and sections, rail and motor roads, underground railways, multi-storey buildings and so on. The Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Works, developed from the former People's Commissariat of the Building Industry, is now doing twice the amount of building and installation work done by that Commissariat in 1940 and, if taken together with the Ministry of Construction of Machine-Building Works, more than three times the amount. The building organizations of the Ministry of Power Stations are now doing over five times the amount of building and installation work they did in 1940.

Nonetheless, the building organizations must be considerably strengthened. The directives provide for the following organizations to be strengthened in the first instance: the building organizations of the Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Works,

the Ministry of Power Stations, the Ministry of the Oil Industry, the Ministry of the Coal Industry and the Ministry of Railways; chemical-works building organizations and also the building organizations of the Ministry of Construction of Machine-Building Works engaged in building plants for the production of electrical and metallurgical equipment, oil-boring equipment, large and special-purpose machines, heavy forging and stamping machines and hoisting and transport equipment.

Steps must be taken to ensure the extensive introduction of industrial building methods, the fullest expansion of the production of prefabricated building parts and units, concrete, mortars and other prefabricated materials. Here it is proposed to effect at least a twofold increase in the capacities of metal-construction manufacturing plants, to build the requisite number of plants for the manufacture of combined ferroconcrete installations, to expand the existing district quarries, and to organize new ones, while the production and processing of stone, ballast, gravel, and sand, and also natural stone blocks is to be mechanized throughout.

The main building operations are to be mechanized and steps taken to ensure the transition from the mechanization of individual processes to the all-round mechanization of building work. It is proposed in the five-year period to increase the number of excavators in use in the building industry by approximately 150 per cent, scrapers 200 per cent, bulldozers 300 per cent, and travelling cranes 350 per cent. It is the duty of builders to make considerably better use

of the ever-growing number of machines and mechanisms.

There must be an improvement in the projecting aspect of building; no waste must be permitted; the time required for the drawing up of building projects must be reduced; projects and estimates must be supplied in good time to the builders. To ensure this the projecting bodies must be provided with skilled personnel, and standard projects must be widely employed.

II. THE ASSIGNMENTS OF THE FIFTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR AGRICULTURE

In agriculture the chief task continues to be that of raising the crop yield, of further increasing the number of commonly-owned cattle, while at the same time effecting a considerable growth in their yield of produce, and of increasing the gross and marketable produce from field and animal husbandry by further consolidating and developing the commonly-owned economy of the collective farms, and by improving the work of state farms and machine and tractor stations through the application of advanced technique and scientific methods.

It is proposed to increase the gross grain crop in the five-year period by 40-50 per cent, the wheat crop to increase by 55-65 per cent, the cotton crop by 55-65 per cent, the flax crop by 40-50 per cent, the sugar-beet crop by 65-70 per cent, and the sunflower crop by 50-60 per cent. There is also to be an increase in the total yield of potatoes, hemp, tobacco, makhorka, and other crops. Horticulture, viniculture, and the cultivation of citrus fruits are to be further developed.

There is to be a rapid development of animal husbandry. The gross output of meat and lard in 1955

is to show an increase over 1950 of between 80 and 90 per cent; the increase in the total yield of milk is to be between 45 and 50 per cent, and of wool between 100 and 150 per cent. There will be an increase in the output of vegetables and potatoes, and also of milk, meat and eggs in the suburban zones of Moscow, Leningrad and other big cities and industrial centres.

Our agriculture is to become still more productive and efficient; the growing of grasses is to be highly developed and proper crop rotations are to be operated, while the percentage of areas under industrial, fodder, and vegetable crops and under potatoes is to be increased.

The Fifth Five-Year Plan makes provision for a considerable increase in the per-hectare yield of crops, the assignments for the different main areas of the country being specifically stated in the following way:

The yield of grain crops per hectare is to increase as follows: in South Ukraine and North Caucasus to 20-22 centners, and on irrigated land, to 30-34 centners; in the Volga region, to 14-15 centners, and on irrigated land to 25-28 centners; in the central black-earth regions, to 16-18 centners, and on irrigated land to 30-34 hectares; in the non-black-earth belt, to 17-19 centners; in the Urals, Siberia and Northeast Kazakhstan to 15-16 centners, and on irrigated land to 24-26 centners; in the Transcaucasus to 20-22 centners, and on irrigated land to 30-34 centners; the rice yield on watered land is to be raised to 40-50 centners per hectare.

The cotton yield per hectare is to be increased as follows: in Central Asia and South Kazakhstan to 26-27 centners; in the Transcaucasus to 25-27 centners and in the southern areas of the European part of the U.S.S.R.—on watered land, to 11-13 centners, and on nonwatered land, to 5-7 centners per hectare.

Per-hectare crop yields are to be increased as follows:

flax—in the non-black-earth belt, to 4.5-5.5 centners, and in the Urals and Siberia, to 4-5 centners per hectare;

sugar beet—in the Ukrainian S.S.R., Moldavian S.S.R. and North Caucasus, to 255-265 centners; in the central black-earth regions, to 200-210 centners, and in Central Asia and Kazakhstan to 400-425 centners per hectare;

potatoes—in the non-black-earth belt, to 155-175 centners; in the central black-earth regions, to 140-160 centners; in the southern parts and in the North Caucasus, to 135-155 centners; and in the Urals and Siberia to 125-145 centners per hectare;

sunflower—in the Ukrainian S.S.R., in the Moldavian S.S.R. and in the North Caucasus to 17-20 centners; in the central black-earth regions to 14.5-16.5 centners, and in the Volga region to 10-12 centners per hectare.

The increase in per-hectare yields is to account for the major part of the increase in the gross harvest of the most important crops. The increase in yield is to account for approximately 90 per cent of

the increase in the grain crop, nearly 50 per cent of the increase in the cotton crop, and for more than 60 per cent of the increase in the sugar-beet crop.

The period covered by the Fourth Five-Year Plan saw the beginnings of the operation of the grandiose Stalin Plan to transform Nature in the steppe and forest-steppe areas of the European part of the Soviet Union. Every possibility now exists for introducing scientific field husbandry throughout the country. The Fifth Five-Year Plan makes provision for the planting of forest belts on the fields of the collective farms and state farms, not only in the steppe and forest-steppe areas of the European part of the Soviet Union, but also in the steppe areas of Siberia, Central Asia and elsewhere. It is proposed, during the five years, to plant shelter belts on a total area of not less than 2.5 million hectares of collective-farm and state-farm land, and nearly 2.5 million hectares of state forests are to be sown or planted.

During the period covered by the Fourth Five-Year Plan much was done to introduce proper crop rotations on the collective farms and state farms and to secure the application of the advanced system of soil cultivation. Serious defects, however, are to be observed in this regard. The Ministries concerned with agricultural problems, as well as the Party and Soviet bodies in the Regions, Territories and Republics must do more to secure the full application of travopolye crop rotations and must ensure that the correct system of soil cultivation is adopted every-

where. The directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan provide for the growing of grasses to be further developed, as being one of the most important means of raising crop yields and consolidating the fodder basis for cattle breeding; activities will be extended to secure the effective employment of proper travopolye crop rotations on the collective farms and state farms. Crop rotations must be operated in such a way as to ensure an annual increase in the output of grain, cotton, sugar beet, flax and other crops, including cattle fodder, in accordance with the state plan. Mineral and organic fertilizers must be applied on the collective-farm and state-farm fields on an increased scale.

In connection with the assignments for increasing yields and total crops, our scientific research institutes, experimental stations and state agricultural bodies must devote themselves to producing and introducing new, more highly productive varieties of grains, more highly productive and early-ripening varieties of cotton, sugar beet with a high sugar content, sunflower with a high oil content, and to creating new varieties of crops for cultivation on irrigated lands. We must see to the further development of Soviet agrobiology on the basis of Michurin's teachings, and to the extensive application on the collective and state farms of scientific achievements and the methods employed on the best farms.

The Fifth Five-Year Plan provides for extensive irrigation and other water works. The irrigated area is to increase in the five-year period by 30-35 per cent, and the area of reclaimed land by 40-45 per

cent. It is proposed to dig as many as 35,000 ponds and reservoirs on collective-farm and state-farm lands.

The transition that is being made to the new system of irrigation, temporary irrigation canals replacing permanent ones, is already serving as an important means of increasing the area irrigated and of enhancing its productivity. It is proposed that the transition to the new system of irrigation shall be completed by the end of the five-year period in all areas where irrigation is employed.

In the sphere of irrigation, priority is to be given to the construction of irrigation and water systems employing the electricity of the Kuibyshev hydroelectric power station and of such systems in the zone of the Lenin Volga-Don Shipping Canal. It is planned to set about the construction of irrigation and water systems in the zones of the Stalingrad hydroelectric power station, the Main Turkmen, South Ukrainian and North-Crimea canals. It is also proposed to carry through the preparatory work for irrigating and watering the Kulunda Steppe. The construction of irrigation systems will be continued in the central black-earth regions, the Kura-Aras lowlands, the basins of the rivers Syr-Darya, Zeravshan and Kashka-Darya, and in the Ferghana valley; so also will the construction of the Kuban-Yegorlyk system, the Orto-Tokoi reservoir and the Great Chu Canal. That these works will be fulfilled is assured by the existence of a powerful technical base. A considerable fleet of excavating machines is now available in agriculture, the number of excavators employed in 1951

being almost eight times the number used in 1940. For the construction of water systems a large number of scrapers, bulldozers, graders and other mechanisms are available.

The wide network of irrigation systems, combined with forest shelter belts, proper crop rotations and other advanced agronomical methods provide the basis for considerable agricultural development over a large area, where the water shortage and the frequent dry winds have rendered crop harvests unstable and adversely affected cattle breeding because of the fodder and water shortage. Bearing in mind the projected great increase in the area of irrigated land, for which the state is making very considerable expenditures, we must demand that better use is made of this land. The use made of the land served by irrigation systems is still unsatisfactory; this is particularly the case in the Kazakh S.S.R., the Turkmen S.S.R. and the Azerbaijan S.S.R. The utilization of these lands must be properly organized, measures must be taken to ensure high crop yields from them and to protect them against salification and bog development. The Fifth Five-Year Plan makes provision for a considerable extension of bog-drainage operations in the Byelorussian S.S.R. and the Ukrainian S.S.R., primarily in the Polesie lowland, in the Lithuanian S.S.R., the Latvian S.S.R., the Estonian S.S.R., the Karelo-Finnish S.S.R., in the non-black-earth zone of the R.S.F.S.R. and in the Barabinsk Steppe.

The fullest development of animal husbandry on the collective farms and on the state farms still re-

mains a key issue for the Party and Soviet bodies during the new five-year period. Provision is made for an increase during the five years of between 18 and 20 per cent in the number of large horned cattle in all sectors of agriculture; the increase in the number of large horned cattle on the collective farms is to be between 36 and 38 per cent, cows alone increasing approximately 100 per cent; the increase in the sheep population in all sectors of agriculture is to be between 60 and 62 per cent, that on the collective farms to be between 75 and 80 per cent; the increase in the pig population in all sectors of agriculture is to be between 45 and 50 per cent, that on the collective farms to be between 85 and 90 per cent.

There is to be a marked increase in the yield of dairy and cattle products. The directives provide for the following:

The annual milk yield per cow on the collective farms of the non-black-earth zone is to reach a weight of from 1,800 to 2,000 kilograms; in the central-black-earth regions—from 1,700 to 2,000 kilograms; in the South and in the Volga region—from 1,600 to 1,900 kilograms; in Siberia, the Urals and Northeast Kazakhstan—from 1,500 to 1,700 kilograms; in Central Asia from 700 to 900 kilograms; and in Transcaucasus—from 900 to 1,100 kilograms.

The wool fleece is to be increased as follows: on the collective farms of the southern districts and the North Caucasus—to 5.2-5.8 kilograms per fine-fleeced sheep, and to 4.2-4.8 kilograms per semi-fine-fleeced

sheep; in the central black-earth regions—to 4.2-5.0 kilograms per fine-fleeced sheep, and to 4.0-4.2 kilograms per semi-fine-fleeced sheep; in the Volga region —to 4.6-5.4 kilograms per fine-fleeced sheep and to 3.9-4.5 kilograms per semi-fine-fleeced sheep; in Siberia—to 4.3-4.9 kilograms per fine-fleeced sheep, and to 3.8-4.2 kilograms per semi-fine-fleeced sheep.

To secure the fulfilment of the assignments for animal husbandry, cattle everywhere will have to be properly fed and kept. The five-year period is to see an increase of approximately 70 per cent in the plantings of fodder crops, while the yield of sown grasses, silage and root fodder crops is to be not less than doubled.

In the development of dairy farming particular attention is to be devoted to the further introduction of the more intensive, stall system of keeping cattle, local peculiarities being taken into account. For our Soviet agriculture, particularly in the districts with large tracts of ploughed land, the transition to the stall system is urgently needed and will render possible a substantial increase in the yield of dairy produce. There is every opportunity to solve this task, a most important one for animal husbandry, by the extensive sowing of grasses, root fodder crops, silage and other crops, and by including meadows and pasture lands of low productivity in the crop rotations. This will make it possible to provide the cattle with proper feed, with green and succulent fodder the whole year round.

Extensive facilities for the development of sheep rearing are provided particularly on the irrigated and

watered territories in the vicinity of the Lenin Volga-Don Shipping Canal, in the Caspian lowlands, the Nogaiskaya Steppe and in the Main Turkmen Canal zone. A stable fodder base is to be established in these areas for sheep flocks of the very largest size.

The new five-year plan assigns a big and responsible task to the machine and tractor stations (MTS), large-scale state enterprises which already do more than two thirds of all the field work on the collective farms. A further improvement must be brought about in the work of the MTS; they must mechanize labour-consuming jobs on an ever-increasing scale in all spheres of collective-farm work; the MTS must be made more responsible for securing the fulfilment of crop yield and meat and dairy produce plans. The period covered by the present five-year plan should see the completion of the mechanization of field operations on the collective farms, the wide-scale mechanization of labour-consuming processes in animal husbandry, vegeculture, horticulture, in the transportation, loading and unloading of agricultural produce, in irrigation, in the drainage of marshlands and in land reclamation.

The tractor capacity at the disposal of the MTS is to increase during the five-year period by approximately 50 per cent, the increase for ploughing purposes to be particularly rapid. In 1955 the capacity of tractors at work on the collective-farm fields will show an increase of 70 per cent per 100 hectares of sown area over the 1940 figure and of 30 per cent over the 1950 figure. In addition, increased

numbers of motor lorries, permanent power installations and other mechanisms are to be employed in agriculture. It is planned to supply agriculture with a large number of new and superior types of ploughs, cultivators, seeders, cotton-picking machines, sugar-beet combine harvesters, and hay-making, fodder siloing, electric sheep-shearing, electric cow-milking and other machinery. The task facing the MTS, the state farms and the collective farms is to make far better use of this equipment.

The Fifth Five-Year Plan is to see a more extended use of electricity in agriculture. A most important task is to produce superior designs of agricultural machinery and introduce electric tractors and agricultural machines operating on cheap electricity, particularly where there are big hydroelectric power stations.

To fulfil the five-year-plan assignments for a further advance in field and animal husbandry, the collective-farm system must be further consolidated, the leading personnel in the collective farms must be correctly selected and distributed and the qualifications of this personnel improved. The collective farms must be made more prosperous by developing their economies to the utmost, by correctly combining field and animal husbandry, by substantially raising the productivity of labour, by improving the organization and remuneration of labour and by reducing waste to a minimum. The incomes of the collective farms will grow, the allocations to their non-distributable funds will increase, and this will make large-scale building work possible, capital expenditure being

directed in the first place to the construction of farm buildings, cattle sheds, irrigation and drainage canals, and reservoirs, to stub-removal, to the planting of shelter belts and to the building of collective-farm power stations and other installations.

In state-farm development prime importance attaches to the achievement of an increase in marketable supplies, primarily of wheat, fine and semi-fine wool, and meat, and also to furnishing collective-farm animal husbandry with thoroughbred progenitors. Provision must be made for a substantial increase on the state farms of crop and meat and dairy yields and thereby for a considerable reduction in production costs.

With a view to improving the work of the state farms, it is planned to complete the comprehensive mechanization of all the most labour-consuming jobs in field work, animal husbandry and in fodder-crop gathering and processing. Measures must be taken to further consolidate the state farms, to supply them with experts and regular workers, and to turn them all into highly productive enterprises, supplying large quantities of marketable produce.

The Fifth Five-Year Plan provides for substantial state expenditure in agriculture, the volume of state capital investments to increase by about 110 per cent over the figure for the period of the Fourth Five-Year Plan; for water-work development the increase will be 300 per cent.

The great assignments in the new five-year plan relating to agriculture require a considerable improve-

ment in the direction of agriculture by the Ministries concerned, and by the local Party and Soviet bodies. While utilizing the great aid rendered by the state to agriculture, wide use must be made of the considerable reserves at hand for increasing the gross yield and marketable surpluses of agricultural and meat and dairy produce; we must see to it that every collective farm, state farm and machine and tractor station fulfils the state plan.

III. THE ASSIGNMENTS OF THE FIFTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR TRADE, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

On the basis of the enhanced industrial and agricultural output the directives of the Fifth Five-Year Plan provide for an increase of approximately 70 per cent in state and cooperative retail trade during the five-year period.

Provision is made for considerably increased sales to the people of the most important foodstuffs and manufactured goods, and also of cultural and household goods. Thus, the year 1955 will see the following increases in sales over the year 1950: meat products, approximately 90 per cent; fish products, 70 per cent; butter, 70 per cent; cheese, 100 per cent, and sugar, 100 per cent. Provision is also made for a considerable increase in the sale of manufactured goods, as follows: cotton, wool, silk, and linen fabrics, approximately 70 per cent; clothing, 80 per cent, footwear, 80 per cent; knitted goods, 120 per cent. The increase in the sale of cultural and household goods is to be as follows: furniture, approximately 200 per cent; metal utensils, 150 per cent; sewing machines, 140 per cent; bicycles, 250 per cent; radio and television sets, 100 per cent; clocks and watches, 120 per cent;

domestic refrigerators, washing machines and vacuum cleaners, a several-fold increase. At the same time it is intended to expand the network of dining rooms, restaurants and tea-shops, and to increase public-catering output by approximately 80 per cent, the assortment to be considerably improved.

To ensure a further improvement in service, provision is made for an extension of the retail trading network, primarily of shops specializing in the sale of foodstuffs, clothing, footwear, fabrics, furniture, crockery, domestic wares, cultural goods and building materials, and for the furnishing of foodstores, dining rooms, restaurants and warehouses with refrigerators and the most up-to-date equipment.

The increase envisaged for this five-year period in industry, agriculture and also trade, will require a considerable development of transport.

During this period there is to be an increase of approximately 46 per cent of all kinds of freightage. Rail freightage is to increase by 35-40 per cent, river freightage by 75-80 per cent, sea freightage by 55-60 per cent, automobile freightage by 80-85 per cent, and air freightage by not less than 100 per cent, while there is to be an approximately 400 per cent increase in the pipe-line transport of oil products.

The enhanced freight traffic will entail a further increase in the density of traffic on the railways. In this connection a most important task facing the railways is to increase the rate of traffic flow.

A number of important measures are envisaged in this regard.

It is proposed to lay about 60 per cent more second tracks than during the period of the last five-year plan, to extend electric railway lines by 300 per cent, and to increase the length of station trackage to 46 per cent of the exploitation length of the railways.

There is to be a considerable expansion in the construction of new railway lines. The five years are to see the opening up for regular exploitation of about 150 per cent more new railways than during the period of the Fourth Five-Year Plan. The construction of the South-Siberian main line on the sectors between Abakan and Akmolinsk, and of the Charjou-Kungrad railway line, is to be completed; and the construction of the Kungrad-Makat, Krasnoyarsk-Eniseisk, Agryz-Pronino-Surgut, Guryev-Astrakhan and other lines is to continue.

It is proposed to further equip the main lines with the latest signalling, automatic and blocking installations, thus ensuring an increase in the rate of traffic flow and traffic safety.

With a view to improving the permanent-way it is proposed to supply the railway system with 85 per cent more new rails than during the period of the Fourth Five-Year Plan and to double the length of ballasted lines.

During the period of this five-year plan practically all wagons and coaches in use are to be fitted with automatic couplings, and the equipping of rolling stock with ball bearings will be begun.

The railways are to be fully supplied with locomotives, wagons and coaches, and the production of new

high-powered steam, electric, diesel and also gas-driven locomotives is to commence.

One of the most important tasks facing the Ministry of Railways is to secure the best use of rolling stock, particularly to reduce wagon turn-round time, to increase the average daily run of locomotives and also to ensure much better use of the carrying capacity of wagons and to increase the tonnage of goods trains.

The fulfilment of the proposed traffic assignments will require efficient and coordinated work from all branches of the railway system, based on the observance of the Government decision regarding the tightening up of discipline and improvement of the organization of labour among those connected with the movement of trains, particularly locomotive crews.

The possibilities for river transport development during the current five-year period have considerably expanded as a result of the inauguration of the Lenin Volga-Don Shipping Canal. Furthermore, the Fifth Five-Year Plan will see the reconstruction of the Volga-Baltic waterway and an increase in the navigable depth of the river Kama. The existence of such big hydrotechnical schemes as the Stalin White Sea-Baltic Canal, the Moscow Canal and the Lenin Volga-Don Shipping Canal, and also the proposed reconstruction of the Volga-Baltic waterway and the building of hydropower stations on the Volga and the Kama will render it possible in the period of the Fifth Five-Year Plan to complete in the main the creation of a single deep-water transport system in the European part of

the Soviet Union. It is a prime task of the Ministry of Inland Water Transport to ensure that the fullest use is made of this transport system for mass-scale freight and also passenger traffic.

In connection with the substantial increase in river traffic and the establishment of new waterways, provision is made for the building of passenger and cargo steamers, motorships, tugs and barges, suitable for plying the big reservoirs; the handling capacity of the river ports is to be approximately doubled by the building of new ports and the reconstruction of existing ones, and by equipping them with highly-efficient mechanisms.

The river fleet must eliminate the lag in its work in the Siberian river basins, and enhance the part it plays in the Far North traffic.

Steps must also be taken to develop traffic on the small rivers, with a view to satisfying local needs.

In order to effect a considerable increase in the tonnage of the merchant fleet, including oil tankers, provision is made for an extension of the shipbuilding industry by opening new building and repair yards, and extending existing ones. The handling capacity of our seaports and the output of our repair yards are to be approximately doubled in the five years. It is proposed to extend and reconstruct the seaports of Leningrad, Odessa, Zhdanov, Novorossiisk, Makhach-Kala, Murmansk and Naryan-Mar, and the seaports in the Far East, and to expand the ports of Riga and Klaipeda.

It is planned to increase traffic along the Northern sea route to an extent that will ensure uninter-

rupted supplies to the population, enterprises and construction schemes in the Arctic and the Far North, to provide the merchant fleet with new icebreakers, and to develop traffic extensively in the basin of the river Lena.

The construction of hard-surface motor roads is to increase by 50 per cent as against the period of the Fourth Five-Year Plan; this is to take place particularly in the Southern areas, in the Transcaucasus and on the Baltic littoral.

Great attention must be devoted to improving the use of the rapidly growing automobile fleet, and to reducing motor transport costs. With this end in view it is proposed considerably to increase the proportion of public goods and passenger road transport, to complete the concentration of existing Department-controlled territorial self-paying automobile service establishments and to set up new ones, and to expand the network of repair shops and of technical service stations. The length of regularly functioning inter-city passenger bus lines will be approximately doubled. Taxi services will be established in all big towns.

There is to be a considerable extension of the airways; new transport planes are to be introduced, equipped with the latest navigation instruments, and there is also to be an increase in the numbe of airports equipped for day and night service.

In communications, provision is made for an increase in inter-city telephone and telegraph communication, and also radio communication. To improve the conditions for the reception of Soviet broadcasts

throughout the Soviet Union and in other parts of the world, the capacity of broadcasting stations is to be considerably increased. Measures will be taken to introduce ultra-short-wave broadcasting and radio-relay system. The capacities of city telephone exchanges are to be increased by 30-35 per cent.

In accordance with the plan for the further development of transport and communications, capital investments in transport and communications by the state are to increase by approximately 63 per cent as against the figure of the Fourth Five-Year Plan.

IV. THE ASSIGNMENTS OF THE FIFTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR A FURTHER RISE IN THE MATERIAL WELL-BEING, HEALTH SERVICES AND CULTURAL LEVEL OF THE PEOPLE

The proposed growth of socialist production and increase in the productivity of labour guarantee a considerable increase in the national income and a further rise in the well-being of the people. The national income of the U.S.S.R. will increase during the five-year period by not less than 60 per cent and this will ensure a further considerable increase in the incomes of the workers and employees as well as in the incomes of the peasants.

In accordance with the growth in the volume of production and productivity of labour, and also in accordance with the assignments relating to the promotion of culture, provision must be made for an increase of about 15 per cent in the number of workers and employees engaged in the national economy in 1955 as compared with 1950.

During the new five-year period we shall continue to reduce retail prices of consumer goods. The constant reduction of prices is the most important means of achieving a systematic rise in the real wages of

the workers and employees and an increase in the incomes of the peasants.

Taking into account the reduction of retail prices the real wages of the workers and employees will increase during the five years by not less than 35 per cent. During this period the allocations made by the state for the social insurance of workers and employees will increase approximately by 30 per cent compared with 1950.

The rise in the labour productivity of the collective farmers, the growth of collective-farm production and the increase in the output of field and animal husbandry, will guarantee an increase of not less than 40 per cent in the collective farmers' money income and income in kind (in terms of money).

In order to achieve a further improvement in the housing conditions of workers and employees we must carry out during the fifth five-year period a big program of housing construction. For this purpose capital investments in house construction in the towns and in the workers' settlements will be increased approximately twofold in comparison with the previous five-year period. In the towns and the workers' settlements state housing construction alone will provide a total living space of about 105 million square metres.

Besides this, individual house-building by the population will be carried on both with the help of credits from the state and on private savings. It should be borne in mind that whereas during the last five-year plan we were engaged in large-scale postwar rehabilitation, in this five-year plan we shall build only new

dwelling houses, which will be of better quality and better appointed.

Besides carrying through a big housing program we shall go ahead with far-reaching measures to bring about a further improvement in communal and public services for the population—extension of the water supply and sewage systems, providing houses with gas and central heating, expansion of municipal transport and public amenities in the towns and the workers' settlements.

Broad assignments have to be carried out during the five-year period in the field of public health. Provision is made for a greater expansion of the network of hospitals, clinics, maternity homes, sanatoriums, rest homes, nurseries and kindergartens. The number of hospital beds will increase by at least 20 per cent, accommodation at sanatoriums by approximately 15 per cent, at rest homes—by 30 per cent, at nurseries—by 20 per cent, and at kindergartens—by 40 per cent. Still more of the latest medical equipment will be supplied to the hospitals, clinics and sanatoriums, and the level of their work will be raised. During the five years the number of doctors in the country will increase by at least 25 per cent and further measures will be undertaken to improve their qualifications.

The production of medicines, medical equipment and instruments is to be increased not less than 150 per cent, while the production of the latest medicines and prophylactics, as well as modern diagnostical and specialized medical equipment, will be expanded at an even faster pace.

The further development of physical culture and sport is guaranteed.

Side by side with the growth of the working people's material well-being we must provide for a further enhancement of socialist culture. It is planned to go over by the end of the five years from seven-year education to universal secondary (ten-year) education in the capitals of the republics, in cities under Union Republic administration, in the regional, territorial and big industrial centres, as well as to prepare the ground for the complete introduction of universal secondary (ten-year) education in all other towns and country localities during the next five-year plan. For this purpose, in 1955 as compared with 1950, the number of pupils in the 8th-10th classes of town schools is to be increased 300 per cent and in country secondary schools 350 per cent.

In order to carry out successfully the big and, to a considerable extent, new assignments in the sphere of education it will be necessary to train more teachers, and to improve the work of the educational authorities. It is planned to build approximately 70 per cent more town and country schools than during the last five-year period.

To further increase the part played by the general school in socialist education and to ensure pupils completing secondary school a free choice of profession, a start is to be made on introducing polytechnical training in secondary schools, while the ground will be prepared for the transition to universal polytechnical training.

To meet the needs created by the further development of the national economy and the promotion of culture it is essential to increase during the five-year period the training of all types of specialists from higher and secondary specialized training establishments by 30-35 per cent, the increase from the higher establishments being over 50 per cent. The flow of specialists from the higher educational establishments into the most important branches of industry, building and agriculture will in 1955 be approximately double the 1950 figure.

During the new five-year plan the state will continue to give great support to Soviet science, which plays an important role in ensuring technical progress in the U.S.S.R. and in enhancing socialist culture. The post-graduate training of scientific and scientific-teaching staff at institutions of higher education and scientific research institutions increases in comparison with the previous five-year period about twofold. Big capital investments will be made in the construction of scientific research institutes and institutions of higher education. Work is almost finished on the construction of the magnificent building of that huge scientific and training centre—the Moscow State University.

Scientific research institutes and institutions of higher education must considerably improve their scientific work, make fuller use of their forces in solving the most important problems of the development of the national economy and generalizing advanced practical experience. It must be ensured that scientific discoveries are given broad practical ap-

plication and that scientists receive full support in working out theoretical problems in all spheres of knowledge; the ties between science and production must be strengthened.

Taking into account the growing desire of the adult population to extend their education, provision has been made for the further development of correspondence courses and evening classes at higher and secondary specialized educational establishments, as well as general educational schools, where working people can study in their off-hours. Further important steps are planned for raising the qualifications of workers in industry.

To satisfy the growing needs of the national economy for qualified personnel, particularly in connection with the further introduction of advanced technique into production, provision has been made to improve the training of young qualified workers in the system of state labour reserves, and also to improve the training of workers on the job.

To give better satisfaction to the population's increasing cultural requirements we must during the fifth five-year period ensure the further development of the cinema and television, libraries, clubs and the press. It is essential to expand the network of cinemas and increase the number of cinema installations by approximately 25 per cent, as well as increasing the number of films produced, particularly coloured films. The network of public libraries will be increased during the five years by at least 30 per cent, and the network of clubs—by 15 per cent; their work in serving the public should be improved. It is planned to

make a considerable increase in the publication of belles-lettres and scientific literature, textbooks, magazines and newspapers, to expand the printing industry and to improve the printing and the make-up of books.

In accordance with the proposed development of the health services, education, and the scientific and cultural establishments, the volume of state capital investment for these purposes over the next five years is increased by approximately 50 per cent in comparison with the previous five-year period.

Such are the most important assignments of the new five-year plan in the sphere of the national economy and raising the material and cultural standard of life of the working people. They bear witness to the fact that Soviet economy is going ahead with giant strides. It is well known that the period of the first three Stalin Five-Year Plans or, to be more exact, thirteen years of peaceful construction preceding the Great Patriotic War, was one of growth in production on a grandiose scale. Describing this period, Comrade Stalin pointed out that "this unprecedented growth of production cannot be regarded as the simple and ordinary development of a country from backwardness to progress. It was a leap by which our Motherland became transformed from a backward country into an advanced country, from an agrarian into an industrial country."

Now the Soviet Union has even greater opportunities to increase its socialist production. If we com-

pare the assignments of the new five-year plan relating to growth of production with the actual results of the development of the national economy during the span of the first three five-year plans (a period of 13 years), we see that the increases in the production of many of the most important types of products envisaged by the Fifth Five-Year Plan equal, and in some cases even exceed, the total increases achieved during all three prewar five-year plans. Thus, the increases outlined in the Fifth Five-Year Plan for the production of pig iron, oil, electric power, cotton fabrics and other important products considerably exceed the increases in the output of these products achieved during the period of the three prewar five-year plans—from 1927-28 to 1940.

The new five-year plan provides for a further rise in the economy and the culture of all the Union Republics. It is a new and vivid expression of the ever-increasing friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union, their striving for a common aim—the building of communist society and the all-round consolidation of the economic might of the U.S.S.R. as the unshakable foundation of the prosperity of all the peoples of our country.

A convincing example of the immense attention the Soviet Government pays to the needs of the Union Republics is provided by the plan's assignments for the development of the economy and culture of the Lithuanian S.S.R., the Latvian S.S.R. and the Estonian S.S.R. The results of the Fourth Five-Year Plan already showed that the industrial output of these republics increased in comparison with 1940 by 180

per cent, and in the Fifth Five-Year Plan it is to make a further considerable increase. During the new five-year period further industrialization will be carried out in these republics. In this connection it is planned to increase the output of electrical power by 100-150 per cent, to build the Narva hydroelectric power station, the Riga heat-power station and to launch the construction of the Kaunas hydroelectric power plant. Planning and survey work must be done for the building of hydroelectric stations of the Baltic littoral. The development of the shale and chemical industry in the Estonian S.S.R. will ensure a 100-150 per cent increase in the production of artificial gas and an 80 per cent increase in synthetic liquid fuel; the Kohtla-Järve-Tallinn gas pipe line will be completed and put into operation. Further development is planned for the machine industry: shipbuilding, electric machine construction, turbine and machine-tool construction in the Lithuanian S.S.R.; electric machine construction, machine-tool construction and shipbuilding in the Latvian S.S.R.; shipbuilding and electric machine construction in the Estonian S.S.R. In the Estonian S.S.R. the production of superphosphate is being organized and a start will be made on the construction of a superphosphate plant in the Lithuanian S.S.R. During the five-year period it is planned to increase the fish catch in the Lithuanian S.S.R. by approximately 290 per cent, in the Latvian S.S.R. by 80 per cent, in the Estonian S.S.R. by 85 per cent; the plan also envisages the expansion of the existing fish-processing enterprises and construction of new ones in these republics.

In the Lithuanian S.S.R., the Latvian S.S.R. and the Estonian S.S.R. it is planned to further promote the breeding of highly-productive cattle, particularly dairy cattle and pigs. Work will be done to drain the marshland in these republics. The network of machine and tractor stations equipped with tractors and agricultural machines will be increased.

Railway reconstruction must be carried out, shipping improved and the transporting of passengers and freight in the Niemen and Daugava river basins increased. It is planned to build bridges across the river Niemen in Kaunas and across the river Daugava in Riga. Provision is made for the further development of sea transport and the seaports in the Lithuanian S.S.R., the Latvian S.S.R. and the Estonian S.S.R. The construction and reconstruction of motor roads is to be carried out on a wide scale.

Big undertakings are to be carried out in the development of the health services and of culture. During the five-year period the number of hospital beds in the Lithuanian S.S.R. is to increase by approximately 40 per cent, in the Latvian S.S.R.—by 30 per cent and in the Estonian S.S.R.—by 30 per cent.

The student body in the teachers' training institutes of the Lithuanian S.S.R. is to be increased 130 per cent, in the Latvian S.S.R.—by 90 per cent and in the Estonian S.S.R.—by 60 per cent.

Similar far-reaching assignments are planned for the development of the economy and culture of the other Union republics.

The new five-year plan cannot be carried out if things are left to themselves; it requires serious exer-

tion, active and creative labour on the part of the workers, the peasants and the intelligentsia. It requires the fulfilment of an immense program of capital construction. Capital construction has always been with us the main means of carrying out the most important prospective economic tasks set by the Communist Party, and a most important factor determining the rate and course of the development of the various branches of the national economy.

The total volume of state capital construction in 1951-55 is to be increased as compared with the Fourth Five-Year Plan approximately by 90 per cent, financial allocations being increased by 60 per cent. The excess of the volume of capital construction over the volume of allocations is to be covered by a corresponding reduction in the cost of building, which must be achieved by raising the productivity of labour, reducing overhead expenses and reducing the prices of building materials and equipment.

To fulfil this plan of capital undertakings we must mobilize the internal reserves and sources of accumulation in all sections of the national economy.

The successful execution of this task depends on the fulfilment of the assignments for raising the productivity of labour and reducing costs of production and circulation expenses, on proficient management, and on the ability to ensure strict economy in every sector of economic construction.

Increase of the productivity of labour is the most important means of achieving the growth of socialist production, the reduction of production costs and the increase of accumulations. During the next five

years the productivity of labour is to increase in industry approximately by 50 per cent, in building by 55 per cent, and in agriculture by 40 per cent. Nearly three quarters of the whole increase of industrial production during the five years will be gained by raising the productivity of labour. Thus the raising of the productivity of labour is to be mainly responsible for the increase in industrial output.

The basis for such a growth in the productivity of labour is the constant rise in the technical equipment of labour, the all-round introduction of advanced science and technique, and also the further growth of the material well-being of the people and the raising of their cultural and technical level.

In the Fifth Five-Year Plan the mechanization of heavy and labour-consuming work will be completed in the main, and the use of electricity in the labour of workers in industry will be 70 per cent above the 1950 and 160 per cent above the 1940 levels. There are particularly favourable conditions for the broad development of mechanization and electrification of labour in socialist production. In the U.S.S.R., where there is no unemployment, the machines save the labour of society and also lighten the labour of the worker.

Widespread dissemination of the experience of the best enterprises and innovators in handling technical equipment, the perfection of technology, and the all-round introduction of advanced methods in production organization are of great importance in achieving high productivity of labour. We must intensify the

mass movement of inventors and rationalizers among the engineers, workers and collective farmers to perfect the methods of production, to raise the productivity of labour and to reduce the cost of production.

The systematic reduction of the production costs and wholesale prices of industrial products is the high-road which the development of socialist industry should follow. The reducing of production costs is the clearest indication of the quality of work in industry, of its success in improving production technique, raising the productivity of labour and strengthening cost accounting. The lowering of production costs and circulation expenses is the basis for the further reduction of wholesale and retail prices.

During the five-year period it is planned to reduce the cost of manufactured goods by approximately 25 per cent, the cost of building work by at least 20 per cent, the cost of the tractor work of the machine and tractor stations by 25 per cent, of railway haulage by 15 per cent, of circulation expenses in retail trade by 23 per cent. It is likewise necessary to achieve a steep reduction in the expenses incurred in purchasing, storing and selling agricultural products, and also in the overhead expenses of sales organizations in industry.

In order to fulfil the assignments of the five-year plan for the reduction of production and circulation expenses we must not only increase the productivity of labour, we must also carry out the strictest policy of economizing material resources by eliminating waste of materials and equipment, by intensifying the

struggle against defective production, by introducing economical types of material, and by the broad application of effective substitutes and advanced technology. We must also achieve considerable economy in the system of management at enterprises and in offices.

Particular attention should be directed to lowering the cost of building. The cost of building, in spite of the considerable growth in the volume of capital construction and the supplying of the construction works with advanced technical equipment, still remains high. We must bring it about that the building of factories and plants, roads, dwelling houses, hospitals and schools should cost the state considerably less every year.

The planned reduction in the cost of building must be achieved by raising the productivity of labour through the further mechanization of building work and the all-round introduction of industrial building methods, by reducing the time for building while achieving a simultaneous improvement in the quality of work, and by reducing overhead expenses and the prices of building materials.

The business executives of enterprises and construction works are required to pay far more attention to the problems of production economics and finance, they must skilfully combine all their activities in developing production technique and organization with the economic and financial results of the work of the enterprises. It is necessary to intensify the part played by the financial organs in effecting day by day financial control over the course of production and

building, commodity circulation, accumulation of material values, and over the financial and economic activities of enterprises and business organs.

> "The trouble—Comrade Stalin says—is that our business executives and planners, with few exceptions, are poorly acquainted with the operations of the law of value, do not study them, and are unable to take account of them in their computations."

Party, Soviet, business, trade union, and Komsomol organizations must mobilize the broad masses of the working people for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the five-year plan, develop widespread Bolshevik criticism and self-criticism of the shortcomings in the work of our organizations with the aim of eliminating them as quickly as possible and improving all our work. Our cadres must be trained not to tolerate any shortcomings in the organization of production, any wasteful or bureaucratic practices, while singling out in good time and giving full support to the new and progressive in our economic life.

We must ensure the observance of the strictest state discipline in the fulfilment of the national-economic plans, being guided in this by the directions of the Party and the Government to the effect that fulfilment of the state plan is the absolute duty of every enterprise. The state plan must be fulfilled not only in gross output but as regards the nomenclature, assortment and quality of the goods produced, in accordance with the required productivity of labour and cost of production.

The execution of the tasks set by the new five-year plan calls for improved planning of the national economy. The most important task in planning is to ensure the right proportions in the development of the individual branches of industry and the national economy, to bring to light and utilize the internal reserves available for increasing production.

The successful fulfilment of the five-year plan will bring a considerable increase in our reserves. In the directives for the five-year plan it is proposed to double the state's material and food reserves, thus insuring the country against all emergencies.

* * *

Comrades, the fulfilment of the new five-year plan will be a big step forward along the path of development from socialism to communism.

The Stalin five-year plans have always had immense international significance. When summing up the results of the First Five-Year Plan Comrade Stalin pointed out that "no step taken along the path of economic construction in our country has found such an echo among the most varied strata in the capitalist countries of Europe, America and Asia as the question of the Five-Year Plan, its development and its fulfilment."

Our five-year plans demonstrate to the whole world the great vital strength of socialism, the fundamental advantages of the socialist system of economy over the capitalist system. The new five-year plan, envisaging a big increase in production and technical progress in all branches of the national

economy, and a further rise in the material well-being and culture of the Soviet people, is a vivid reflection of the essential requirements of the basic economic law of socialism and of the law of the proportionate development of the national economy. As Comrade Stalin teaches, the essential features and requirements of the basic economic law of socialism consist in ensuring the maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole of society through the continuous expansion and perfection of socialist production on the basis of higher techniques.

The five-year plan of the Soviet Union is a plan of peaceful economic and cultural construction. Its fulfilment will be a new large contribution to the cause of strengthening peace throughout the world. The peaceful policy of the Soviet Government embodied in the new five-year plan is based on the possibility of the peaceful coexistence of the system of socialism and the system of capitalism, expresses the unshakable will of the whole Soviet people for peace and is in full accord with the fundamental interests of the working people of all countries.

The new five-year plan will help to further consolidate and expand the economic cooperation and brotherly concord between the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, and to develop economic relations with all countries that wish to develop their trade on the principle of equal rights and mutual advantage.

The new five-year plan raises the international prestige of the Soviet Union. Millions of people in all

countries are becoming more and more convinced of the advantages of the socialist system, the Soviet policy of peace and the development of friendly relations among the peoples.

The publication of the draft directives of the XIX Party Congress for the Fifth Five-Year Plan roused deep interest and lively responses in all countries. The working people of the whole world warmly welcome the new Stalin five-year plan for peaceful economic construction and a further rise in the well-being of the Soviet people.

In the U.S.S.R. the draft directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan have received the full approval of the Party organizations, the working class, the peasants and the intelligentsia. Inspired by this program for the further rapid development of socialist economy and culture towards communism, the working people of the Soviet Union have greeted the Party Congress with outstanding successes in production. Compared with the corresponding period last year the gross industrial production of the U.S.S.R. during 9 months of 1952 increased by 12.5 per cent, the volume of capital investment in the national economy by 15 per cent, and the average daily freight carried by the railways by 10 per cent. A good harvest of grain has been gathered, and the bringing in of a big harvest of industrial crops, vegetables and potatoes is nearly completed.

When debating the draft directives for the five-year plan, Party organizations, as well as individual Party members and non-Party comrades, made many comments and suggestions. The absolute

majority of these suggestions add concretely to the draft directives in accordance with the tasks and peculiarities of economic development in various regions, territories and republics or with regard to individual branches of the national economy.

They suggest increasing production in one or another branch of industry, making more specific the assignments relating to the development of agriculture and transport, the building of industrial enterprises, power stations, railways and motor roads needed by regions, territories and republics.

Thus the Ukrainian comrades raised the question of building coal-concentration plants, and a heat-and-power station in Zaporozhye; the Leningrad comrades suggest the building of hydroelectric power stations. There are suggestions for building new electric transmission lines and substations in Krivorozhye, a hydroelectric power station on the river Daugava and so on.

A considerable number of the suggestions are aimed at making more specific the assignments relating to the introduction of new technique and the mechanization of labour-consuming processes. There are a considerable number of suggestions dealing with the improvement of the organization of labour, the training of personnel, the improvement of the work of cultural, scientific and health service establishments.

All these suggestions are imbued with concern for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the Fifth Five-Year Plan and speak for the immense experience accumulated by Party organizations in the field of economic construction, as well as the growth of our

cadres, and are of great significance for the five-year plan.

Since the directives for the five-year plan must define only the basic assignments relating to the national economy and cannot embrace every detail, all the numerous suggestions made by Party organizations, individual Communists and non-Party comrades which add concretely to the draft directives should be examined and used in drawing up the five-year plan on the basis of the directives of the XIX Party Congress.

However, certain corrections must be accepted when producing the final version of the draft directives. Namely, it would be expedient to point to the development of the production of automatization and telemechanization instruments and to the carrying out of measures for the further improving of labour protection in industrial enterprises.

In the People's Democracies the draft directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan have also given rise to an upsurge of political and productive activity on the part of the working people and to increased interest in Soviet economic construction, which is the prototype for all peoples that have set foot on the path of socialism and democracy. The working people of the democratic countries have greeted the five-year plan for the further enhancement of the economic might of the U.S.S.R. with satisfaction. They regard it as a reliable guarantee of peace throughout the world and a real prerequisite for the further consolidation and expansion of economic ties between the U.S.S.R.

and the democratic countries. In honour of the XIX Party Congress the workers and peasants of the People's Democracies have undertaken obligations for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of their five-year plans.

The further raising of the people's standard of living envisaged in the plan has produced a tremendous impression on the working people of the capitalist countries, who are undergoing more and more hardships in connection with the increasing militarization of capitalist economy. Every day they become more and more convinced that peaceful labour and prosperity for the whole of society can only be achieved under socialism.

All the bourgeois newspapers devote great attention to the new Soviet five-year plan. It is interesting to note that whereas the bourgeois press, as a rule, treated the previous five-year plans with scepticism and many bourgeois public men considered even the Fourth Five-Year Plan unrealizable without American loans, now, thanks to the undoubted successes achieved in fulfilling the Soviet plans, bourgeois public opinion no longer considers this five-year plan impracticable. The Fifth Five-Year Plan provides new and vivid confirmation of the peaceful policy of the Soviet Government and strikes a telling blow at the warmakers. It is just for this reason that the reactionary bourgeois newspapers have let loose an avalanche of lies and slander at the draft directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan, trying to hide from the masses of the people its peaceful character and to ascribe to it nonexistent aggressive aims and purposes.

Comrade Stalin has already explained that it is impossible to enlarge the civilian industries, to expand the construction of huge civilian projects and systematically to reduce the prices of consumer goods, while at the same time enlarging armed forces and boosting the war industries. The lie about the Soviet Union's supposed aggressive intentions is spread so as to mislead the working people in the capitalist countries, to get them to swallow this lie about the U.S.S.R., and to inveigle them into participating in the new world war being organized by reactionary circles in the U.S.A. This gross lie of the bourgeois propagandists is, however, being shattered by the systematic rise in the well-being of the Soviet people, by the development of the civilian industries and culture in the U.S.S.R., and by the steady deterioration of the conditions of the people in the capitalist countries and the growth of militarism there.

Comrades, the inspirer of the new five-year plan, as of the previous five-year plans, is our leader and teacher Comrade Stalin. (Applause.)

Before the Congress, Comrade Stalin's new work "Economic Problems of Socialism in the U.S.S.R." was published. It has armed our Party with the knowledge of the economic laws of socialism, the theory concerning the building of communism in the U.S.S.R., and the knowledge of the scientific principles of planning the national economy.

The Soviet people will greet the five-year plan worked out on the directions of the Party and the Government with a fresh mighty upsurge of produc-

tive activity and nation-wide socialist emulation for the victory of the Fifth Stalin Five-Year Plan.

The Soviet people will spare no effort to ensure the successful fulfilment and overfulfilment of the new five-year plan. Firmly united round the Communist Party, round their beloved leader and teacher the great Stalin, the Soviet people march forward confidently towards Communism. (Prolonged applause.)

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